

AUG 22 2006

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REMARKS

This is intended as a full and complete response to the Office Action dated June 1, 2006, having a shortened statutory period for response set to expire on September 1, 2006. Applicants respectfully request entry and consideration of the above noted amendments and the following remarks in response to the Office Action.

CLAIM REJECTIONS:

Claims 1-3 and 5-7 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,914,113 (*McLeod*). As discussed in the interview, *McLeod* does not teach the features of the amended claims. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection.

Claims 8-10 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over *McLeod*. Applicants assert that *McLeod* is not prior art under 35 U.S.C. §103(a). A prior invention which would otherwise be prior art under 35 USC §102(e) is not prior art to determine obviousness if the prior invention and the claimed invention were both, at the time the claimed or later invention was made, owned by the same entity or subject to an obligation to assign to the same entity. See, 35 U.S.C. §103, third paragraph. Applicants submit that *McLeod* and the claimed invention are both assigned to Fina Technology, Inc. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection.

Claims 1-15 and 18-22 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,960,375 (*Giblin*). In addition, claims 1-15 and 18-22 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over *Giblin* in view of U.S. Patent Pub. No. 2003/0030174 (*Gray*). The present application claims priority to U.S. Provisional Appl. Ser. No. 60/441,137, filed on January 17, 2003. *Giblin* was filed on May 27, 2003, which is subsequent to the priority date of the present application. Accordingly, *Giblin* is not prior art and Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejections.

Further, due to the amendments to claim 1, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the withdrawn claims.

In conclusion, Applicants submit that the references cited in the Office Action, neither alone nor in combination, teach, show, or suggest the claimed features. Having

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addressed all issues set out in the Office Action, Applicants respectfully submit that the claims are in condition for allowance and respectfully request the same.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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